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Farm Facts

For

South Carolina



Department of
Applied Economics and Statistics

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HIGHLIGHTS

- Broilers
- Cotton Ginnings
- Grain Stocks
- Layer and Eggs
- Livestock Slaughter
- Prices Received
- Prospective Plantings
- Vegetables

2006 PROSPECTIVE PLANTINGS

The March Prospective Plantings Survey, recently completed by the USDA NASS South Carolina Field Office, indicated that SOUTH CAROLINA farmers intend to harvest more tobacco and hay this year while corn, cotton, soybeans and small grain planting intentions are down from 2005.

CORN growers currently expect to plant 280,000 acres in 2006. This is down 7 percent (20,000 acres) from the acreage planted in 2005, and down 11 percent from 2004.

COTTON growers currently intend to plant 255,000 acres in 2006. This is down 4 percent (11,000 acres) from 2005, but 19 percent above in 2004.

TOBACCO acreage for harvest in 2006 is expected to total 22,000 acres. This is up 10 percent from 2005, but 19 percent below 2004.

Based on the March 1 survey, **SOYBEAN** acreage is expected to decrease in 2006. A total of 410,000 acres are expected to be planted - down 5 percent (20,000 acres) from 2005 and down 24 percent from 2004.

WHEAT acreage planted for the 2006 crop is set at 140,000 acres - down 18 percent (30,000 acres) from 2005 and down 26 percent from 2004.

SORGHUM acreage for this year is expected to total 7,000 acres, down 30 percent from 2005 and no change from 2004.

OATS, including both fall and spring plantings, are expected to total 30,000 acres - down 14 percent from 2005 and down 25 percent from 2004.

PEANUT acreage for 2006 is expected to total 50,000 acres, down 21 percent from 2005, but up 43 percent from 2004.

HAY acres for harvest this year are expected to total 300,000 acres - up 3 percent (10,000 acres) from 2005 but down 9 percent from 2004.

SWEETPOTATO planted acreage is expected to be 1,000 acres. This is unchanged from 2005 and 2004.

ANNUAL LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER

Red meat production for the United States totaled 45.8 billion pounds in 2005, slightly higher than the previous year. Red meat includes beef, veal, pork, lamb and mutton. **Red meat production** in commercial plants totaled 45.7 billion pounds. On farm production totaled 135 million pounds. **Beef production**, at 24.8 billion pounds, was slightly higher than the previous year. **Veal production** totaled 165 million pounds, down 6 percent from last year, and set a new record low. **Pork production**, at 20.7 billion pounds, was slightly higher than the previous year, setting a new record high. **Lamb and mutton production** totaled 191 million pounds, falling 4 percent below the previous record low set a year ago. **Commercial cattle slaughter** during 2005 totaled 32.4 million head, down 1 percent from 2004, with federal inspection comprising 98.3 percent of the total. The average live weight was 1,256 pounds, up 16 pounds from a year earlier. **Commercial calf slaughter** totaled 734,400 head, down 13 percent from a year ago with 97.7 percent under federal inspection. The average live weight was 353 pounds, up 23 pounds from a year earlier. **Commercial hog slaughter** totaled 103.6 million head, slightly higher than 2004 with 99.0 percent of the hogs slaughtered under federal inspection. The average live weight was up 2 pound from last

year, at 269 pounds. **Commercial sheep and lamb slaughter**, at 2.70 million head, was down 5 percent from 2004 with 94.7 percent comprised by federal inspection. The average live weight was up 2 pounds from 2004 to 138 pounds.

There were 807 plants slaughtering under federal inspection on January 1, 2006 compared with 827 last year.

SOUTH CAROLINA RED MEAT PRODUCTION Number of Pounds, by Month, 2005 1/

Month	Million. Lbs.	Month	Million. Lbs.
January	20.2	August	20.2
February	18.8	September	19.9
March	21.4	October	20.8
April	19.1	November	22.2
May	19.8	December	20.8
June	20.3		
July	18.2	Total	241.6

1/ Includes total beef, veal, pork, and lamb and mutton, excluding farm slaughter

VEGETABLES

FRESH MARKET VEGETABLES

SOUTH CAROLINA: The spring acreage of fresh market **cucumbers** is expected to total 900 acres, down 100 acres (10 percent) from last year, according to the USDA-NASS, South Carolina Field Office. Spring acreage of fresh market **tomatoes** is estimated at 3,000 acres, unchanged from the previous year.

UNITED STATES: The prospective area for harvest of 11 selected fresh market vegetables during the spring quarter is forecast at 206,900 acres, down 1 percent from last year for comparable States. Acreage decreases for snap beans, broccoli, cauliflower, head lettuce, bell peppers, and tomatoes more than offset acreage increases for cabbage, carrots, celery, and sweet corn. Melon acreage for spring harvest is forecast at 78,200 acres, up 6 percent from last year. Watermelon acreage is up 4 percent from 2005 while cantaloupe acreage increased 10 percent from a year ago. Honeydew melon acreage remains unchanged. Asparagus acreage for spring harvest is forecast at 45,500 acres, down 16 percent from last year.

PROCESSING VEGETABLES

SOUTH CAROLINA growers have contracted to grow 4,600 acres of cucumbers for pickles, down from 4,800 acres (4 percent) in 2005.

UNITED STATES Processors expect to contract 1.22 million acres of the 5 major processed vegetable crops in the U.S. this year, virtually unchanged from last year. Contracted acreage decreases are forecast for snap beans and sweet corn, while cucumbers for pickles, green peas, and tomatoes show increases. Freezing firms expect to contract 378,150 acres, up 3 percent from last year. Acreage for sweet corn is up 9 percent. Green pea acreage is down 3 percent, while snap bean acreage for freezing is virtually unchanged from last year. Canneries contracted for 846,580 acres, down 1 percent from 2005. Acreage increased for cucumbers for pickles, green peas, and tomatoes, up 6 percent, 9 percent, and 10 percent, respectively, while acreage decreased for snap beans and sweet corn, down 11 and 15 percent, respectively.

FRESH MARKET VEGETABLES: Acres Planted and Harvested, Yield, Production and Value. South Carolina, 2004-2006

Vegetables	2004	2005	2006 Int.	2004	2005	2006 Int.
	Acres Planted			Acres Harvested		
Cantaloupes	1,300	1,200	--	1,100	1,100	--
Cucumbers	2,200	1,900	--	2,000	1,700	900*
Cucumbers/Pickles1/	4,200	4,800	4,600	4,000	4,100	--
Snap Beans	1,400	1,300	--	1,000	1,000	--
Squash	1,400	1,200	--	1,300	1,100	--
Tomatoes	3,600	3,200	--	3,500	3,000	3,000
Watermelons	8,000	7,500	--	7,000	7,000	--
	Yield per Harvested Acre (Cwt.) 1/			Production (Thou Cwt.) 1/		
Cantaloupes	140	80	--	154	88	--
Cucumbers	120	70	--	240	119	--
Cucumber/Pickles1/	5.70	3.50	--	22.8	14.4	--
Snap Beans	60	30	--	60	30	--
Squash	110	62	--	142	68	--
Tomatoes	300	130	--	1,050	390	--
Watermelons	210	110	--	1,470	770	--
	Season Avg. Price per Cwt. (Dollars)			Total Value (Thou. Dollars) 1/		
Cantaloupes	12.50	17.00	--	1,925	1,496	--
Cucumbers	23.00	21.00	--	5,520	2,499	--
Cucumbers/Pickles1/	220.00	222.00	--	5,016	3,186	--
Snap Beans	45.00	40.00	--	2,700	1,200	--
Squash	27.60	21.50	--	3,918	1,460	--
Tomatoes	26.50	36.10	--	27,825	14,079	--
Watermelons	5.00	9.00	--	7,350	6,930	--

1/ Cucumbers for Pickles Yield and Production in Tons; Value in Dollars per Ton.

COTTON GINNINGS

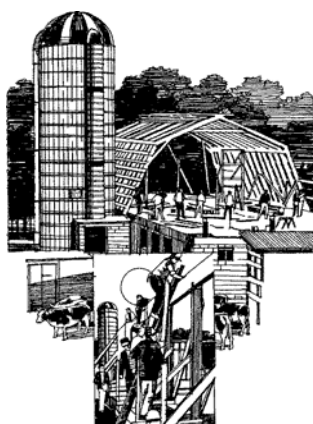
Prior to January 15; Crop Years 2004-2005; Selected States

Selected States	Running Bales Ginned	
	2004	2005
Florida	92,900	112,100
Georgia	1,749,800	2,101,650
Mississippi	2,274,250	2,089,300
North Carolina	1,324,150	1,398,300
South Carolina	369,100	391,500
Texas	7,580,300	8,296,550
United States	21,838,650	22,652,300

PRICES RECEIVED by Farmers and Parity Prices, March 2006, with Comparisons

Commodity Unit	South Carolina			United States			U.S. Parity Price Based on Data for	
	March 2005	February 2006	March 2006	March 2005	February 2006	March 2006	March 2005	March 2006
Crops:								
Corn.....\$/bu.	*	*	*	2.02	2.02	2.01	6.71	7.65
Cotton 1/.....\$/lb.	*	*	*	0.403	0.490	0.496	1.71	2.25
Cottonseed.....\$/ton	*	*	*		98.20		280.00	296.00
Hay, baled\$/ton	*	*	*	92.60	95.00	97.10	--	--
Oats.....\$/bu.	*	*	*	1.73	1.82	1.77	3.99	4.25
Peanuts.....\$/lb.	*	*	*	0.185	0.198	0.175	0.631	0.673
Sorghum Grain.....\$/cwt.	*	*	*	3.04	3.40	3.29	11.00	11.90
Soybeans.....\$/bu.	*	*	*	5.95	5.67	5.55	16.20	16.90
Tobacco.....\$/lb.	--	--	--	1.455			--	--
Tomatoes.....\$/cwt.	--	--	--	40.70	57.60	37.80	--	--
Wheat, All.....\$/bu.	*	*	*	3.42	3.66	3.71	10.00	10.30
Peaches.....\$/lb.	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Livestock:								
Calves\$/cwt.	*	*	*	136.00	142.00	138.00	236.00	263.00
Cattle, Beef\$/cwt.	*	*	*	91.00	92.40	89.20	174.00	190.00
Hogs, All\$/cwt.	*	*	*	51.20	42.60	42.40	108.00	115.00
Sows\$/cwt.	*	*	*	43.40	31.10	34.40	--	--
Barrows and Gilts ...\$/cwt.	*	*	*	51.50	43.20	42.80	--	--
Broilers\$/lb.	*	*	*	0.440	0.380	0.370	--	--
Eggs, All 2/4/\$/DOZ.	*	*	*	0.526	0.495	0.664	1.70	1.75
Eggs, Mkt. 3/4/.....\$/DOZ.	0.664	0.576	0.520	0.327	0.301	0.499	--	--
Turkeys\$/lb.	*	*	*	0.381	0.396	0.403	1.020	1.080

*Only season average price published. 1/ Prices based on 480 pound net weight bale. 2/ The All Egg price represents sales to hatcheries, retailers, wholesalers, and grading and packing plants. 3/ The Market Egg price represents sales to retailers, wholesalers, and grading and packing plants. 4/ Mid month price.



GRAIN STOCKS

SOYBEAN stocks stored in off-farm facilities in SOUTH CAROLINA on March 1, 2006 totaled 2.68 million bushels, compared to 4.66 million bushels stored March 1, 2005, according to the USDA NASS South Carolina Field Office. **CORN** stocks stored in off-farm facilities totaled 3.46 million bushels, compared to 2.63 million bushels stored off-farm on March 1, 2005. **WHEAT** stocks stored in off-farm facilities totaled 1.63 million bushels on March 1, 2006, compared to 781 thousand bushels on March 1, 2005. **OAT** stocks stored off-farm on March 1, 2006 totaled 70 thousand bushels, compared to 105 thousand bushels on March 1, 2005.

CORN stocks in all positions in the UNITED STATES on March 1, 2006 totaled 6.99 billion bushels, up 3 percent from March 1, 2005. Of the total stocks, 4.06 billion bushels are stored on farms, down 2 percent from a year earlier. Off-farm stocks, at 2.93 billion bushels, are up 12 percent from a year ago.

SOYBEANS stored in all positions totaled 1.67 billion bushels, up 21 percent from March 1, 2005. This is the largest March 1 stocks level on record. Soybean stocks stored on farms are estimated at 872 million bushels, up 10 percent from a year ago. Off-farm stocks, at 797 million bushels, are up 36 percent from last March.

ALL WHEAT stored in all positions on March 1, 2006 totaled 972 million bushels, down 1 percent from a year ago. On-farm stocks are estimated at 256 million bushels, down 16 percent from last year. Off-farm stocks, at 716 million bushels, are up 5 percent from a year ago.

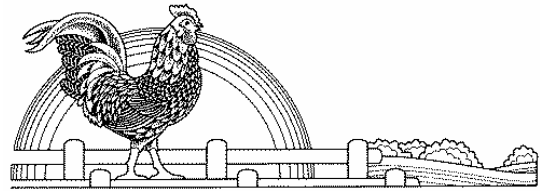
EGG PRODUCTION

SOUTH CAROLINA'S laying flocks produced 101 million eggs during February down 4 percent from last year. Production totaled 84 million table eggs and 17 million hatching eggs. The number of layers averaged 5,075,000 birds, which was down 4 percent from 5,138,000 a year ago. February egg production per 100 layers was 1,990 eggs, compared with 2,044 in February 2005.

UNITED STATES egg production totaled 6.97 billion during February 2006 up 1 percent from last year. Production included 5.99 billion table eggs, and 989 million hatching eggs, of which 927 million were broiler-type and 62 million were egg-type. The number of layers during February 2006 averaged 350 million, up slightly from a year earlier. February egg production per 100 layers was 1,995 eggs, also up slightly from February 2005.

HENS AND PULLETS OF LAYING AGE, February 2006

Selected States	Average No. of Layers	Eggs Produced	Eggs per 100 Layers
	Thousand	Million	Number
Alabama	8,897	157	1,765
Florida	11,406	230	2,016
Georgia	19,063	365	1,915
North Carolina	11,073	199	1,797
South Carolina	5,075	101	1,990
United States	349,653	6,974	1,995



BROILER HATCHERY PRODUCTION

During the month of February, **SOUTH CAROLINA'S** broiler hatcheries produced 17.0 million chicks, up 2 percent from the previous year.

Broiler-type chicks hatched during February 2006 totaled 733 million; up slightly from February 2005. Eggs in incubators totaled 666 million on March 1, up 1 percent from 2005.

CHICKS HATCHED by Commercial Hatcheries

Flock Type and Area	February 2006	Jan-Feb 2006
	Thousand	
<i>Broiler Type:</i>		
SOUTH CAROLINA	16,977	35,547
United States	733,145	1,537,218
<i>Egg Type:</i>		
United States	33,665	69,087